

TABLE D-3: LISTED PLANTS AND ANIMALS WITHIN MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE

PLANT SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		CNPS	CNPS RED CODE	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	THREATS	IMPORTANCE OF NEMO TO LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE SPECIES
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State	CNPS					
Thorne's buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum ericifolium</i> var. <i>thornei</i>		CA Endangered	1B	3-2-3	Pinyon & juniper woodland, copper-rich gravel. 5900-6200 ft elev.	Eastern desert mountains. Known from only two canyons in the New York Mountains. Other varieties in AZ.	Potential threats from mining and grazing.	The entire known range of this variety is within the planning area.

ANIMAL SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	THREATS	IMPORTANCE OF NEMO TO LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE SPECIES
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State				
BIRDS							
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>		Threatened	Breeds in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas and in oak savanna. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations. Trees are important nesting habitat in desert.	Western half of U.S., w Canada, ne MX. In CA, primarily migrants throughout planning area. Has been recorded at the Amargosa Canyon Natural Area and its immediate drainage and at MOJA ¹ and DEVA ² . Owens Valley supports a small breeding population	Although formerly abundant in CA, loss of nesting habitat has reduced the state's population significantly. Offsite pesticide use is another significant threat.	The planning area encompasses little of the species' total range.
southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii eximius</i>	Endangered	(<i>Empidonax traillii</i> is State listed Endangered)	Inhabit extensive thickets of low, dense willows on edge of wet meadows, ponds, or backwaters. Require dense willow thickets for nesting and roosting; low, exposed branches are used for singing posts and hunting perches. 2000-8000 ft elev.	Only 300-500 nesting pairs thought to exist over species' entire range (70 pairs in CA). Breeding range includes s CA, s NV, s UT, NM, w TX; (possibly sw CO, n Baja, CA and Sonora, MX). Recorded at Amargosa Canyon Natural Area, DEVA, and at least at the species level at MOJA.	Cowbird parasitism and habitat modification are primary threats; the latter from: water diversion, livestock grazing (including destruction of nests by cattle). ORV / OHV ³ and other recreational uses.	Certain wetlands in NEMO are ephemeral sites for SWWF. Because migration routes and wintering grounds are not well known and habitat patches as small as 0.5 hectares can support 1-2 nesting pairs, the planning area may be of some although limited importance to species recovery.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State				
elf owl	<i>Micrathene whitneyi</i>		Endangered	In CA, nesting area is limited to cottonwood-willow and mesquite riparian zone along the Colorado River. Nests in deserted woodpecker holes, often in larger trees that offer insulation from high daytime temperatures.	Along the Colorado River. Has been recorded at DEVA.		
least Bells vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Riparian; willow-cottonwood forest, oak woodland, shrubby thickets and dry washes established with arroyo willows. Small amounts of aquatic and herbaceous cover. Dense shrub layer from 2.0 to 9.9 ft aboveground.	Only in CA and Baja CA. Small scattered areas in south/south-central CA; coastal/inland. Currently breeds in few scattered riparian habitat in s CA, in Amargosa River. Has been recorded at Amargosa Canyon Natural Area and its immediate drainage; also at DEVA.	Loss of riparian habitat. Brood parasitism by brown-headed cowbirds. Susceptibility to rapid local extinction resulting from disease outbreak or increase in predators or parasites. Nest predation by birds, snakes and mammals.	The planning area represents fringe habitats for LBV and low numbers of documented birds, given depleted habitats near large population centers in southern CA; however, NEMO management may contribute to species recovery.
REPTILES							
desert tortoise	<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>	Threatened	Threatened	Wide variety of habitats including alluvial fans, desert washes, broad valleys, creosote bush communities with annual flower blooms. Friable soil for digging burrows.	Mojave Desert portions of CA, NV, and north of the Colorado River in AZ and southwestern UT. Has been recorded at DEVA, MOJA, and BLM ⁴ .	Upper respiratory tract and shell lesion diseases. Collection. Predation by ravens and canids. Conflicts with livestock and feral burros (trampling). Direct mortality and injury by humans from poaching, shooting, OHV / ORV use.	NEMO includes roughly 10-15% of total critical habitat designated for DT. Populations receive relatively few human impacts and may be relatively disease-free as compared with western Mojave populations, an important consideration for species recovery.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State				
FISH							
Mohave tui chub	<i>Gila bicolor mohavensis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Adapted to alkaline, mineralized waters. Needs deep pools, ponds, or slough-like areas. Needs vegetation for spawning. All habitats where the species exists are artificial pond situations that have little resemblance of its native habitat.	Endemic to the Mojave River Basin. Found at Soda Springs within MOJA. Population at Soda Springs comprises about 30% of all existing populations. Also at China Lake and Camp Cady Wildlife Area.	Water fluctuations. Habitat restrictions. Habitat alteration by humans. Lack of habitat maintenance by humans.	Once abundant and wide ranging, but is now restricted to a single habitat in its native range. This occurrence is in NEMO.

NOTES

¹ MOJA = Mojave National Preserve

² DEVA = Death Valley National Park

³ OHV/ORV = Off-Highway Vehicles or Off-Road Vehicles

⁴ BLM = Bureau of Land Management public lands within the NEMO Planning Area

STATUS EXPLANATIONS

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

List 1B = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere

CNPS RED Code

R (Rarity)

3 = Distributed in one to several highly restricted occurrences, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported

E (Endangerment)

2 = Endangered in a portion of its range

D (Distribution)

3 = Endemic to California